

wherein k is 1 to 12, nor is there any motivation in this or any other reference to modify the oligonucleotides shown in Levina et al. to arrive at the probe of claim 18. Accordingly, the invention of claim 18 is patentable.

III. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, the applicant submits that the claims pending in the application are in condition for allowance. A Notice of Allowance is therefore respectfully requested.

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